

# GERMANS CAPTURE PLOCK AND BIELSK; CONTINUE PURSUIT OF RETIRING RUSSIANS

## SUNDAY FAVORABLE TO WASHINGTONIANS' REVIVAL INVITATION

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 16.—"I am inclined to consider most favorably your invitation to come to Washington. I must have a little time to look up dates and to think over the matter, but I shall give you a definite answer soon."

This was the answer Billy Sunday today gave four members of the Sunday campaign committee of Washington.

### ASKS ABOUT MEETING.

William Knowles Cooper, John C. Latta, the Rev. Clarence H. Vincent, and H. S. O'Connell reached Mr. Sunday's home at 1814 Spring Garden street, at 11 o'clock this morning.

"I am glad to see you fellows," said Sunday, as he grasped the hands of the visitors. "What is the news from Washington? What did they do to me at that meeting last week?"

Mr. Sunday took the Washington party with him in an automobile to a meeting at the Pennsylvania railroad yards in West Philadelphia, and on the way asked questions about the conditions in Washington.

He was especially anxious to know how the Washington campaign would cooperate in the campaign if he came.

## Forecasts Passage of Ship Measure Tonight

Passage tonight of the Administration's ship purchase bill in the House is foreshadowed by the adoption of a special rule, by a vote of 186 to 139, limiting debate to six hours.

This will bring the bill to a vote about 8 o'clock tonight, and in spite of Republican tactics, aided by the Democratic insurgents, the measure will be sent to the Senate with a wide margin.

The Administration Democrats plan to rush the measure into the Senate at once, where a motion to concur will be made, and a demand for the roll call will follow immediately in an attempt to block any Republican filibuster.

Senator Ashurst, who heads the roll, is prepared to start the roll with a vote which once started cannot be interrupted. Adoption of the motion to concur would pass the bill.

President Wilson came out today squarely in favor of a cloture rule in the Senate to block obstruction tactics, and at the same time forecast the passage of the ship purchase bill in the Senate.

### TAKE TEST VOTE.

Forecasting the passage of the ship bill tonight by a good majority, the House today took a test vote on the previous question on the rule making consideration of that bill in order.

The House voted 181 to 126 for the previous question, which had the effect of limiting debate on the rule to forty minutes. Following the adoption of the rule itself, the House settled down for a six-hour debate on the merits of the ship purchase bill.

Democrats voted with the Republicans against the previous question on the rule, but some of these Democrats were because of opposition to so-called "tag rules" rather than the ship purchase bill.

### Greeted With Groans.

During the brief debate on the rule, Congressman Henry was greeted with groans from the Republican side, when he asserted that the country is behind the ship bill and the Wilson Administration, and that the bill is designed to rid us of the grip of the shipping trust.

Mr. Campbell, ranking Republican on the Rules Committee, assailed the President for forcing action on the bill, and declared the House is passing the bill only to save the President's face.

"I know and you know," said Campbell, "that the only effect the passage of this bill will have is to save the face of this Administration. You do not believe it will become a law at all. It ought to become a law, and less still do you believe that the bill will do you good. It will do you harm. The President and his Secretary are running things in a way that will do you harm. The President and his Secretary are running things in a way that will do you harm. The President and his Secretary are running things in a way that will do you harm."

### SHIPPING INQUIRY WILL BE RUSHED

Senate Special Committee Will Call Two Witnesses Immediately, and Others Later.

The special committee of the Senate named to conduct the shipping investigation proposed by the Burton resolution, decided today to call two witnesses without delay.

These witnesses will be Sigmund Albert, of 46 Broadway, New York, supposed to represent German shipping lines, and Bernard N. Baker, of Baltimore, former general manager of the Atlantic Transport line.

Mr. Baker has been employed recently by Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo and Secretary of Commerce Redfield, to find out what ships the Government could purchase should the ship bill be passed.

Both Mr. Albert and Mr. Baker were called at the instance of Senator Burton, author of the resolution. It is expected that representatives of the German shipping line, which has been alleged to have an interest in American shipping, will be called.

The committee met today in the office of Senator Walsh, Secretary of the Senate. Senators Simmons and Reed were also present. Later, Senator Weeks resigned from the committee, saying it was inconvenient to serve. Senator Sutherland was named in his place.

The Burton resolution authorizes an investigation of allegations that New York financial interests have been seeking options on interned German ships with a view to their sale to the Government and to prove alleged activity of the shipping trust against the ship purchase bill and into the question whether Senators have any shipping stock which would be affected by the ship bill.

## TRACTION CO. HEAD OBJECTS TO JITNEY BUS SERVICE HERE

In Letter to Public Utilities Board George E. Hamilton Makes Strenuous Protest Against New Service.

Declares Operation of Lines Will Work Great Injustice to Corporation Which Has Aided in City's Growth.

Strenuous objections to the unrestrained and unregulated competition proposed by the promoters of the jitney bus service in Washington is voiced in a letter mailed to the Public Utilities Commission today by George E. Hamilton, president of the Capital Traction Company.

Declaring that their investigations had shown them that the jitney service, wherever inaugurated, has left behind it a trail of maimed and killed and brought about greater congestion of street traffic, Mr. Hamilton declares it will be a great injustice to his corporation if the proposed "free lance" competition becomes a fact and a greater injustice if, in case such competition does become an actuality, the jitney buses are not put under control of the Public Utilities Commission just as are the street cars and taxicabs.

Mr. Hamilton's letter to the commission is as follows:

### Text of Protest Letter.

"Referring to the advertised inauguration on March 1 proximo of the jitney bus service in Washington, and the published statement that this service will be considered by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia as a public hack business, and will not be regulated by the Public Utilities Commission, I desire for, and on behalf of, the Capital Traction Company, to submit the following:

"The jitney bus service, wherever operated, and as intended to be operated in the District of Columbia, according to the announcements of those in charge of the movement, is competitive with the service now rendered by street cars. It is to be run over certain routes and those routes may be selected and limited to the more crowded and business sections of the city. It gives a ride for 5 cents to all persons applying, and holds itself out to all the public to give this service.

"Is it fair or just to the existing companies, or to the people of the District of Columbia, that companies which, by the extension of their lines through the District in all directions, have materially added to the growth and development of the city and to the enhancement of value of properties, in which are invested the money and savings of hundreds and even thousands of the citizens of the District; which through a long number of years have been returned by the Grand Jury to Chief Justice Covington, in Criminal Court No. 1, today, against Mansell P. Mills, a patent attorney and former clerk in the City Postoffice, be returned to the City of Washington, and the other companies, to his own use two packages, one containing \$100,000 sent from Salisbury, N. C., and the other containing \$5,000 addressed from Washington to Los Angeles. Mills was arrested last week.

Imported La Carolina Cheroots, the fine Havana tobacco exclusively—Adv.

## Germans Resent Attitude of U. S. Hostile Feeling May Cause Crisis

### AMERICANS FLEEING BERLIN, FOLLOWING CRITICISM IN PRESS

German Papers Stir People With Charge That U. S. Is Siding With the Allies.

### FEARS ARE NOT DISGUISED

### Position of Ambassador Gerard and Consul General Low Becoming Delicate.

COPENHAGEN, Feb. 16.—Americans are leaving Berlin and pouring in here on every train.

The exodus is due to the hostile attitude of the Berlin press to Americans.

By KARL H. VON WIEGAND.

BERLIN (by courier to Copenhagen and cable to New York), Feb. 16.—The American Government, press, and public apparently does not realize to what extent and depth the bitterness of feeling throughout Germany against Americans is spreading.

Feeling At High Pitch.

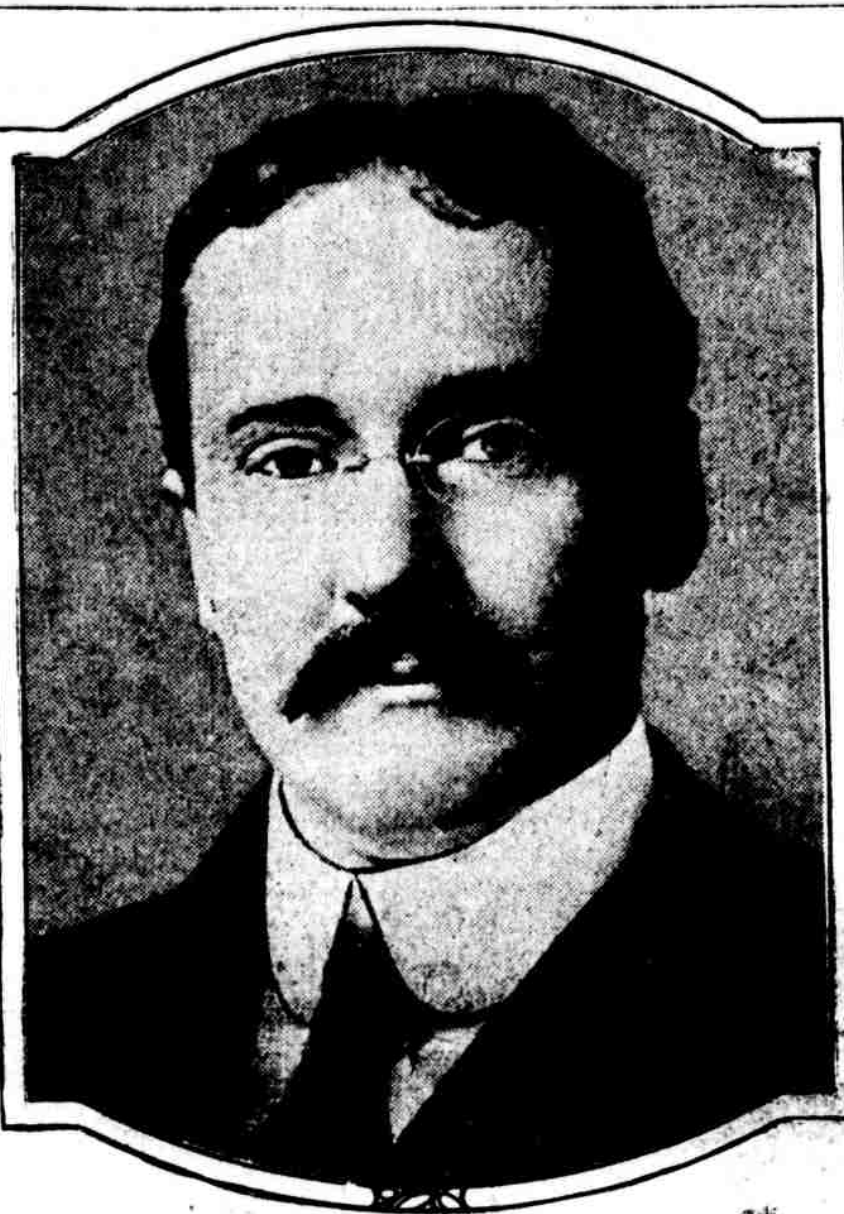
With the German press daily publishing dispatches tending to show that the United States is siding more and more with the allies, and with the reprinting of dispatches taken from the English newspapers indicating extreme hostility toward Germany, the people of Germany are becoming worked up to a point which it would be difficult to exaggerate.

Officials and American citizens here cannot disguise their serious fears that some incident will occur which will lead to a serious crisis.

Frigid For Americans.

Wounded officers and men from the front openly charge that the German losses are becoming much greater now that the French are using American-manufactured arms and ammunition.

(Continued on Second Page.)



JAMES W. GERARD, American Ambassador To Germany.

## Last Call Sounds For Donation Week Toilers

### Thousand Already Have Enlisted, But Rolls Will Be Kept Open Till Midnight—Booths Near Completion.

Last call for volunteers for donation week! More than 1,000 women already are enlisted in the campaign which begins tomorrow to raise funds for Washington charities, but Mrs. Ellis Logan, chairman of the executive committee, today made a final call for workers.

Hammers and saws resound in more than 100 of the busiest spots in Washington, where finishing touches are being put on the booths to be thrown open tomorrow to receive pennies, nickels, dimes, and dollars.

### GREATEST APPEAL EVER MADE.

No appeal for such a variety of needs from the good will and generosity of citizens into concrete forms of relief. In every department store, beginning tomorrow, busy shoppers will be asked to drop a coin for the common cause. In drug stores, in Government department stores, in the Union Station, and in branch postoffices, on street corners and in office buildings, collection boxes, surmounted by placards with the inscription, "Don't forget this is Donation Week," will be brought together in an effort to transform the good will and generosity of citizens into concrete forms of relief.

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## BILL TO KILL BULL MOOSE FAILS.

TRENTON, N. J., Feb. 16.—A combination of ten Democrats and three Republicans in the senate this afternoon sufficed to kill the Rathbun bill proposing to eliminate the Bull Moose party from further activity. The bill provided that to have voting boxes at the primaries a party should have received 10 instead of 5 per cent, as now, of the voted polled at the last preceding general election.

## GETS 50 CENTS FOR FINDING \$155.

A half dollar was the reward received today by Tommy Lavender, a House page, for finding a purse containing \$155. Tommy found the pocketbook of Congressman Sells of Tennessee lying in a House aisle. He returned it to Sells and the Congressman tipped him 50 cents.

## SPEAKER'S ELECTION ENDS LONG DEADLOCK.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Feb. 16.—After a record breaking legislative deadlock of seven weeks, the Illinois general assembly, in forty-ninth annual session, this afternoon elected David E. Shanahan, of Chicago, Republican, speaker, on the sixty-eighth ballot.

## BRITISH TRY IN VAIN TO RECAPTURE LOST POSITION AT ST. ELOI

### Kaiser's Forces in Poland, North of the Vistula, Take 1,000 Russian Prisoners. Czar's Troops Being Hurled Farther From East Prussian Frontier, Says Berlin.

BERLIN, Feb. 16 (via wireless through Sayville).—The official review of conditions on the eastern and western theaters of war today, claims that the Germans have successfully occupied Plock and Bielsk, in Poland, north of the Vistula river.

It is also officially denied that the Germans have lost anywhere near the number of men in their operations in Poland that have been claimed by the Russians. The report says:

"In the western war theater the enemy's attacks against the trenches taken from the English near St. Eloi have all been repulsed. Otherwise there have been no important events there.

"In the eastern war theater the pursuit and fighting on and beyond the east Prussian frontier are proceeding very favorably from the German viewpoint. In Poland, north of the Vistula river, the Germans have occupied Bielsk and Plock after a short fight in which 1,000 prisoners were taken. South of the Vistula no important events have taken place.

"In the foreign press the most absurd rumors are being printed about immense German losses in the fighting east of Bolimow 'beginning of February.' This can be stated to be untrue, as the German losses in these attacks were small in proportion to the attained success."

The claim of the German war office is in direct contradiction of today's French official statement, which asserts that the trenches between St. Eloi and the Ypres canal have been recaptured by the British.

## French Move Toward the Aisne In New Offensive Against foe

PARIS, Feb. 16.—Heavy snows have again interfered with the fighting in upper Alsace and in the Vosges. The attempted German offensive is reported generally to have been checked in that region. Elsewhere along the fighting front the German offensive has been checked by the artillery, and both sides have suffered from the destruction of the enemy's positions.

Extensive movements of troops are reported to be in progress along the line from the Aisne northward, and it is believed here that an effort to take the ground north of the Aisne is being made by the Germans because of the heavy floods in the Aisne valley.

The German artillery continues its bombardment of Soissons, and through the use of inflammable shells has been able to destroy several blocks of ruined buildings in the center of the city.

At La Bassée the British heavy mortars have compelled the Germans to withdraw some of their artillery and to replace it with pieces of heavier caliber.

patch, but it is believed that the diplomatic relations of Turkey and Greece are soon to be broken off.

London diplomats assert that Greece believes Turkey responsible for the Albanian invasion of Serbia, and that she will take steps immediately to defend the territory of her ally in the Balkan wars.

SOFIA, Feb. 16.—That radical members of the Turkish committee of union and progress are bent upon provoking a quarrel with Greece so that Turkey can make an attempt to regain Salonika, is indicated strongly by the trend of events in Constantinople. On the other hand, the Greek government wants Greece to remain out of the conflict.

## Five Plaza Owners Get Checks Totaling \$31,665

The Plaza Commission today delivered to five property owners in squares 721 and 722 checks amounting to a total of \$31,665. Today's distribution makes a total of \$266,165 dispensed by the commission since its appointment by President Wilson to adjust the awards to owners of property where the Union Station plaza is to be.

The awards today and the amount of each follow: Marcan & Green, \$3,900; G. H. Hall, \$11,700; G. H. Hall, \$7,500; Edward Helmholtz, \$4,547; and Julian Ham-mack, \$4,653.

## Large Area Is Closed To Shipment of Cattle

Because of a new outbreak of the foot and mouth disease, all the territory east of the Mississippi river and north of Tennessee was placed in the quarantined area today by Secretary of Agriculture Houston, and no shipments of livestock, except for the purpose of immediate slaughter, will be permitted from this area to the South or West. Stock owners, however, in the District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia, Vermont, and Maine, may ship out their stock on affidavit that it has been on their farms for a certain length of time and has not been exposed to any risk of contagion.

## Greek Minister Leaves Porte, War May Follow

ATHENS, Feb. 16.—War is believed to be imminent between Greece and Turkey as a result of the latter's failure to give Greece satisfaction following the recent insult to its naval attaché in Constantinople.

The Greek minister to Constantinople has left and is on his way home.

LONDON, Feb. 16.—A Constantinople dispatch states that M. Parnas, the Greek minister to Turkey, has left the Ottoman capital for Athens, but that other legation officials are remaining in Constantinople.

No explanation is offered in the dispatch.